

ABSTRACT

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PREVENTING UNAUTHORIZED COPYING OF SOFTWARE DOWNLOADED FROM A REMOTE SERVER

The present invention is a method and system for downloading software application programs over the Internet, which prohibits a user from distributing an unauthorized copy of the software in violation of the license agreement. The method begins when an individual purchases the software application program for download. A Client Program is first downloaded to the user's computer. When the Client Program is executed, it automatically contacts an applications server and establishes a secure communications link. The Client Program then transmits a unique user identifier (UUI), which is specific to the user's computer back to the application server. The application server then separates the UUI into several 16-bit words and embeds them in various locations throughout the software application program files. These files are then downloaded over the secure communications link to the user's computer and installed in different locations on the users computer.